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work is to be drawn up under cooperation of the most distinguished experts. Tests with animals will also be made. The Government has granted a subvention of 150,000 marks for the purpose.

FRANK H. MASON,
United States Consul-General.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.

Establishment of a sulphur disinfecting plant at Honolulu.

HONOLULU, H. I., *December 14, 1901.*

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that through the united efforts of the committee for the establishing of a rat crusade, the merchants' association, the public works department, and this office, a very effective floating sulphur plant has been improvised and lent to the Service here for the purpose of disinfecting wharves and vessels. The public works department lent the scow, boiler, and engine, this office lent an unused sulphur furnace, air chamber, and fan from quarantine island, and the merchants' association paid for the proper installation of the machinery on the barge and a proper deck house for its protection.

Since November 13, all sailing vessels leaving here have had their holds subjected to sulphur fumigation at the channel wharf, but it was found to be impossible to perform this work there in addition to the handling of oriental steamers with their large cargoes and outgoing quarantine work.

The new barge has been busy ever since its completion and it is a perfect success. On account of conditions here, we will fumigate all of the interisland steamers and underneath all of the wharves, which latter have been cased in for this purpose. While all of this work will be done by our station force, the material and extra help will be furnished without expense to the Service.

Respectfully,

L. E. COFER,
Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.,
Chief Quarantine Officer, Hawaii.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Confirming telegraphic report of cases and deaths from plague.

HONOLULU, H. I., *December 19, 1901.*

SIR: Pursuant to my telegram of even date reporting 4 deaths from plague in Honolulu from December 11 to December 14, inclusive, I have the honor to give the following particulars:

The case of December 11 occurred near the corner of Breetania and Alakea streets in an Hawaiian woman named Paaluhi Massa, the mother of Kukeololani Massa, the boy who died of plague at the same place on December 5.

The case was first seen on December 8 by Dr. Pratt, when the clinical symptoms were as follows: Temperature 104° F., pulse 100, great difficulty in breathing, some delirium, but no glandular swelling. There was little change in the woman's condition until December 11, when all of the above symptoms became more marked and in addition there appeared a typical bubo in the left femoral region. In the afternoon of the same day the patient became more delirious, and the temperature dropped below normal. Death occurred at 10 p. m., and the necropsy was made immediately thereafter and the body cremated as usual at the

quarantine station. A double set of smears was made from the bubo, liver, and spleen, one by Dr. McDonald, of the board of health, and the other by Asst. Surg. R. L. Wilson. The plague bacillus was easily demonstrated in all of the smears. Dr. Wilson's cultures on agar also showed the bacillus.

The next case (December 12) occurred in an Hawaiian named William Umi, who lived on Kuakini street, but who had been employed by the California Feed Company, who within the week previous had found 10 dead rats in their warehouse on Queen street. This patient when first seen on December 11 had a well-marked bubo in the left femoral region, and a consolidation of the lower left lung, this with the usual high temperature and general depression. Dr. McDonald aspirated the bubo and at once demonstrated plague bacilli in the smears. The patient died at 4 a. m., on December 12. The necropsy was performed by Dr. McDonald in the presence of Dr. Pratt, Dr. Myers, and the writer. The left lung, particularly its lower lobe, showed consolidation. The left pleural cavity contained a great deal of effusion. The right lung was slightly congested throughout. The spleen was greatly enlarged and engorged. The external surface of the liver showed the light areas of fatty degeneration always seen in this disease. The intestinal lymph glands were enlarged. Smears from the glands, liver, spleen, and lung, made by Dr. McDonald and Assistant Surgeon Wilson, showed the plague bacillus. This was the first case of plague pneumonia which has occurred this year. The next case (December 14) occurred in an Hawaiian, named Makaina, who lived in the same house with the last case on Kuakini street and was doubtless infected by him. On December 12, this man was found suffering from a well-developed double pneumonia. He had a small bubo in the left femoral region and the usual fever and depression. Dr. McDonald aspirated the bubo and found the plague bacilli in the serum. The next day the patient's right lung became almost completely consolidated. He died early the following morning. The necropsy was performed by Dr. McDonald in the presence of Drs. Pratt, Sinclair, Wilson, and myself. The right lung, particularly the lower lobe, showed advanced red hepatization. The left lung showed a general engorgement. The other findings were as usual—i. e., effusion within the serous cavities, spleen greatly enlarged and engorged, and the usual mottling of the liver. The usual smears were made. Smears made from the lung by Assistant Surgeon Wilson showed the plague bacilli in small number. The next or fourth case of this group occurred in a Japanese, named Doi Asakuchi, who had been living in a small house adjoining the stable of the California Feed Company, and who doubtless received his infection as did William Umi. On December 13 this man was seen by Dr. Pratt, who found him suffering from a slight cough, temperature of 102° F., headache, pain in the back, a well-developed plague bubo in the right femoral region and also one in the right axillary fossa. Serum from these buboes showed the plague bacillus. This case died on December 14. The necropsy was performed by Dr. McDonald in the presence of Drs. Pratt, Wilson, and the writer. The findings were characteristic. In all of these cases there was an unusually large amount of effusion around the infected glands. The usual smears were made and the plague bacilli demonstrated.

Respectfully,

L. E. COFER,
*Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.,
Chief Quarantine Officer, Hawaii.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.